

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 MUNICH 00179 291413Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-10 SAJ-01 /089 W
----- 079441

R 291325Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL MUNICH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5552
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING
AMCONSUL STUTTGART

UNCLAS MUNICH 0179

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, GW

SUBJECT: STRAUSS PRESS CONFERENCE

1. FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS HELD PRESS CONFERENCE AT LOCAL
CSU HEADQUARTERS TUESDAY AFTERNOON SHORTLY AFTER HE LANDED
MUNICH ON RETURN FROM HIS VISIT TO PEKING. CONFERENCE WAS
IN NATURE OF BROAD-BRUSH SUMMARY OF HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH
CHINESE OFFICIALS, INCLUDING POINTS OF VIEW THEY EXPRESSED
TO HIM CONCERNING MAJOR WORLD ISSUES. STRAUSS STRESSED THAT
HE WAS NOT REPEAT NOT QUOTING ANY INDIVIDUAL HIGH CHINESE
OFFICIAL BUT RATHER RELAYING CONSENSUS EXPRESSED TO HIM BY
PEKING LEADERSHIP AS A WHOLE.

2. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF MAJOR POINTS:

A. DANGER OF WORLD WAR III. CHINESE REGARD
RIVALRY BETWEEN "SUPER-POWERS" (UNITED STATES AND USSR)
UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MUNICH 00179 291413Z

AS MAJOR DANGER TO WORLD PEACE AND TO LESSENING OF
TENSIONS; SOVIETS PRESENT GREATER DANGER TO WESTERN

EUROPE THAN TO CHINA, WITH THREE-FOURTHS OF WARSAW PACT TROOPS FACING WESTERN EUROPE AND ONLY ONE-FOURTH FACING CHINA; HOWEVER, SOVIET INTENTIONS SEEM PRIMARILY TO GAIN HEGEMONY OVER WESTERN EUROPE BY NON-MILITARY MEANS RATHER THAN BY ARMED ATTACK.

B. EUROPEAN UNITY. CHINA STRONGLY SUPPORTS EUROPEAN UNITY AGAINST SOVIET THREAT: WHILE CHINESE IN PRINCIPLE STRONGLY OPPOSED STATIONING OF TROOPS OF ANY COUNTRY OUTSIDE THAT COUNTRY'S BORDERS, THEY UNDERSTAND EUROPEAN (AND SPECIFICALLY GERMAN) DESIRE FOR AMERICAN TROOPS IN EUROPE UNDER NATO AS DEFENSE AGAINST SOVIETS.

C. GERMAN UNITY. CHINESE SUPPORT CONCEPT OF UNIFICATION OF GERMAN PEOPLE, FOR WHICH STRAUSS EXPRESSED GRATITUDE.

D. ATOMIC WARFARE. CHINESE SELF-DEFENSE STRATEGY (IMPLICITLY AGAINST USSR) RELIES PRIMARILY ON DOCTRINE OF "PEOPLE'S WAR" AS EXEMPLIFIED IN STRUGGLE AGAINST JAPANESE AND LATER AGAINST CHIANG KAI-SHEK NATIONALIST FORCES; ROLE OF ATOMIC WEAPONS PLAYED DOWN.

E. PEKING VIEW OF WORLD. CHINA SEES WORLD DIVIDED INTO (1) SUPER-POWERS (2) DEVELOPED COUNTRIES OTHER THAN SUPER-POWERS AND (3) UNDERDEVELOPED (THIRD) WORLD; CHINA SEES ITSELF AS NATURAL LEADER OF THIRD WORLD; RIVALRY BETWEEN SUPER-POWERS REPRESENTS DANGER TO THIRD WORLD AS WELL AS THREAT TO WORLD PEACE.

3. IN ADDITION TO THESE MAJOR TOPICS STRAUSS SAID, HE ALSO DISCUSSED WITH CHINESE PROBLEM OF WORLD OIL SUPPLIES AND PRICES; MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM; PROJECTED EXCHANGE OF MILITARY ATTACHES BETWEEN PEKING AND BONN (WHICH CHINESE CITED AS FAVORING); CIVIL AIR NEGOTIATIONS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN FEBRUARY 15 LOOKING TOWARD RECIPROCAL TRAFFIC RIGHTS BETWEEN GERMANY AND CHINA; AND POSSIBLE GERMAN INDUSTRIAL EXPOSITION IN PEKING LATE SUMMER OR EARLY FALL. STRAUSS DID NOT GO INTO DETAIL ON CHINESE POSITION IN REGARD TO EACH OF THESE.

4. IN RESPONSE TO REPORTER'S QUESTION, STRAUSS SAID THAT HE WOULD IN DUE COURSE INFORM CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT
UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 MUNICH 00179 291413Z

PERSONALLY OF HIS CONVERSATIONS IN CHINA. HE STATED HE WAS NOT BEARING ANY MESSAGES FROM CHINESE LEADERS, NOR HAD HE CONDUCTED ANY POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS WITH THEM. HE ALSO DENIED HE HAD UNDERTAKEN TRIP BECAUSE OF ANY INTERNAL POLITICAL AMITIONS.

5. NEWS CONFERENCE ATTENDED BY LARGE NUMBERS OF MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES, AND WEDNESDAY'S MUNICH PRESS GIVES IT HEAVY COVERAGE, WITH SUDDEUTSCHE FOCUSING MAINLY ON IMPACT OF VISIT ON DOMESTIC GERMAN POLITICAL SCENE.

SUDDEUTSCHE SEES TRIP AS ADVANCING STRAUSS'S POLITICAL
ASPIRATIONS AND INCREASING HIS STATURE AS ONE OF VERY
FEW GERMAN POLITICAL FIGURES ENJOYING WORLD STATURE;
IMPLICATION IS THAT STRAUSS HAS IMPROVED HIS CHANCES
FOR FUTURE CHANCELLORSHIP OR, AT LEAST, FOR BECOMING
GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER.SPIVACK

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL SITUATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MUNICH00179
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750033-0225
From: MUNICH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750110/aaaaaiyc.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 DEC 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 DEC 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <30 DEC 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STRAUSS PRESS CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, CH, GE, (STRAUSS, FRANZ JOSEF)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006